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WATER USERS COMMITTEE MEETING

WATER RIGHTS
SALT LAKE

On July 17th 1996 members of the Water Committee, Russel Mayer, Gary Sullivan, Chairman Keith James, State Engineer Bob Morgan, Lee Sim, Kurt Vest, John Larsen and Hertrudys Adkins met at the home of Keith James. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m..

Lee Sim reported the progress they have made for Milford Valley water users. He explained that flights were made on the 11th and 12th of June and photos taken. The photos were passed around to be viewed by the board. They will do a Global Postal Survey. On August 7th John Larsen will spend a day verifying the maps with the Cedar Office. A letter will be sent the latter part of August to inform water users if they are over using their water rights. The State will send the board copies of the maps and any letters sent.

The vacancy on the Water board created with Joey Leko's resignation was discussed. Lee stated that there are no set bylaws as to a certain number of board members. It was decided to leave the position vacant until there is a need to have it filled.

Keith James next directed his remarks to Bob Morgan, the State Engineer. He said he was speaking for the board and the Milford Valley Water Users. Their concern is that of the Beaver Valley Water Users and their water regulation. It was stated that Beaver is at the head of Milfords water source and if they are not being regulated their over use would directly affect Milfords water supply.

It was noted that there is much land being sprinkled now that was not irrigated in the past. There are also several ponds dug and filled. The Milford water users want to know where the water is coming from and did they receive rights for new wells etc. It was stated that Rocky Ford water rights help in recharging the aquifer. Russel Mayer said that when the water does not enter the Minersville Reservoir it hurts all the Milford Valley water users. Russel also noted the State order to instal meters, meters that are now not being used. Bob Morgan said they feel embarressed that the users were put through the need to buy meters.

It was requested that the State begin immediately to make the preparation necessary to begin monitoring the Beaver Valley Water Users. State Engineer Bob

Morgan promised that next year when they take the aerial photos of Milford they will take aerial photos of Beaver as well.

Keith James suggested that there be preparations made for water storage during the wet years to replace the aquifer and save lands being flooded as in the year of 1983. Such a preparation could be a Reservoir or pond. Bob Morgan asked how big the reservoir would need to be. Gary Sullivan requested that an engineer be retained to determine the size needed. Keith asked Bob Morgan to research and find any rules that would apply to a pond.

Gary Sullivan said many water users have asked him about the Circle Four situation with water. Kurt Vest responded that twelve change applications for stock use with the irrigation rights leased back to the seller had been acquired. Keith James asked if the State could keep up with all the changes. Bob Morgan replied that right now they can and hope to. Kurt Vest asked if all Circle Fours barns were being metered. Lee Sim responded that Water Commissioner LaVar Davis is reading them. Lee also stated that when the maps are completed they can see just where Circle Four is with their water use.

Gary Sullivan said another question he is being asked by water users is concerning the Gravel Pits and their water rights. He asked how the State calculates water for gravel pits. It was explained.

Russel Mayer asked what can water users do in the State Legislature to help with our water rights. Bob Morgan replied that they work to have more money appropriated to their department so they can have more manpower and equipment to do these studies and set up better water regulation in all areas.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.